

**GOVERNMENT OF THE DISTRICT OF COLUMBIA**  
**Office of the Attorney General**

**ATTORNEY GENERAL**  
**KARL A. RACINE**



April 9, 2021

The Honorable Charles Schumer  
Majority Leader  
United States Senate  
322 Hart Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable A. Mitchell McConnell  
Minority Leader  
United States Senate  
317 Russell Senate Office Building  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Richard Durbin  
Chairman  
Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington, D.C. 20510

The Honorable Charles E. Grassley  
Ranking Member  
Committee on the Judiciary  
Washington, D.C. 20510

Re: Support for the confirmation of Kristen Clarke as Assistant Attorney General, Civil Rights Division, U.S. Department of Justice

Dear Senators:

We, the undersigned Attorneys General of our States, write to urge the Senate to expeditiously confirm the nomination of Kristen Clarke as Assistant Attorney General of the Civil Rights Division of the U.S. Department of Justice. Ms. Clarke is an experienced civil rights leader who will work closely with law enforcement to combat hate and discrimination and make our justice system and society fairer.

Ms. Clarke has a breadth of civil rights experience. Among these experiences, we note particularly her leadership of the Civil Rights Bureau in the New York Attorney General's Office, which gave her keen insight into the role of state attorneys general in striking the appropriate balance between our work representing state agencies and our mandate to advance the public interest. During her tenure in New York, Ms. Clarke led on a range of critical issues, including criminal justice, housing discrimination, religious rights, and fair lending. These issues remain pressing today, and Ms. Clarke is prepared to lead on them at the Department of Justice.

Simply put, Ms. Clarke has tackled the most important challenges we are confronting. The focus of the National Association of Attorneys General this year is on combatting hate, an area where Ms. Clarke has substantial expertise. Under Ms. Clarke's leadership, the Lawyers' Committee for Civil Rights Under Law worked closely with law enforcement on a months-long effort to produce guidance and training materials to enhance hate crime prevention. The Department of

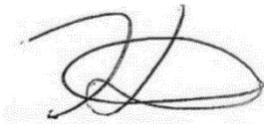
Justice plays a significant role in collecting hate crime data, prosecuting hate crimes, and leading the nation's efforts to combat hate crimes. We are pleased that the nominee to lead that work is an experienced leader in that space.

In addition to combatting hate crimes, Ms. Clarke has worked on other issues that are central to our efforts over the last few years and are areas where the Justice Department must lead: advancing constitutional policing, combatting human trafficking, protecting the rights of indigent defendants, and stopping violent extremism, including by holding accountable social media platforms hosting content that violates federal and state laws.

Ms. Clarke not only has deep substantive expertise on civil rights matters, but she also understands how states and the federal government can effectively partner to accomplish shared goals. From her time in New York, Ms. Clarke has a deep and thorough understanding of how to work in a multistate coalition to create meaningful change that no state could achieve alone. Ms. Clarke's work at an attorney general's office and as an advocate has also given her unique insights into effectively marshaling federal resources to advance civil rights.

Kristen Clarke is an experienced professional who is ready to work with law enforcement, communities that have been left behind, and others to make our nation safer and fairer. We are proud to support her nomination and encourage you to do the same, and we look forward to the opportunity to work with her to advance the civil rights of all Americans in the coming years.

Sincerely,



KARL A. RACINE  
District of Columbia Attorney General



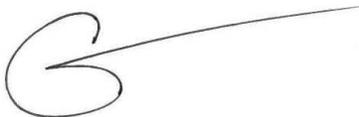
PHILIP J. WEISER  
Colorado Attorney General



WILLIAM TONG  
Connecticut Attorney General



KATHLEEN JENNINGS  
Delaware Attorney General



CLARE E. CONNORS  
Hawaii Attorney General



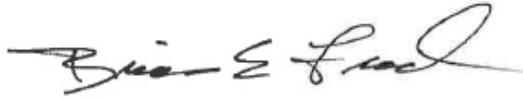
KWAME RAOUL  
Illinois Attorney General



TOM MILLER  
Iowa Attorney General



AARON M. FREY  
Maine Attorney General



BRIAN E. FROSH  
Maryland Attorney General



MAURA HEALEY  
Massachusetts Attorney General



KEITH ELLISON  
Minnesota Attorney General



AARON D. FORD  
Nevada Attorney General



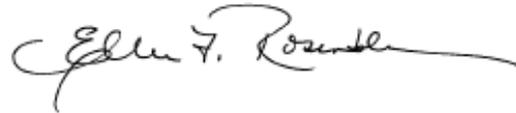
HECTOR BALDERAS  
New Mexico Attorney General



LETITIA JAMES  
New York Attorney General



JOSH STEIN  
North Carolina Attorney General



ELLEN ROSENBLUM  
Oregon Attorney General



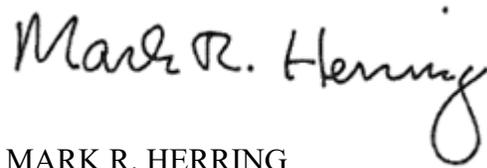
JOSH SHAPIRO  
Pennsylvania Attorney General



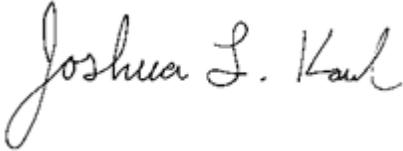
PETER F. NERONHA  
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THOMAS J. DONOVAN, JR.  
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MARK R. HERRING  
Virginia Attorney General



JOSH KAUL  
Wisconsin Attorney General